

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR BROADBAND MULTI-USER
COMMUNICATION SESSIONS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A system and method of setting up a multi-user communication session over a
global computer network are provided. The method includes first sending a session
participation request message from a first user to a second user, where the session
participation request message includes the first user's QoS requirements for the
session. The second user then sends a negotiating message to the first user in
10 response to receiving the session participation request message, where the negotiation
message includes the second user's QoS requirements for the session responsive to the
first user's QoS requirements. The resource availability in access networks of the first
and second users according to the second user's QoS requirements is determined, and
resources in the respective access networks of the first and second users are then
reserved in response to resources being available to achieve the second user's QoS
requirements. The first user thereafter sends an acknowledgement message to the
15 second user in response to receiving the negotiating message to indicate the
completion of QoS provisioning.